1FW/1634

Sterne Kessler Goldstein Fox
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

OIPE
SEP 05 2006
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
IAP61

Robert Greene Sterne
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Horner
Robert C. Millonig
Donald J. Featherstone
Timothy J. Shea, Jr
Michael V. Messinger
Judith U. Kim

Patrick E. Garrett
Jeffrey T. Helvey
Heidi L. Kraus
Eldora L. Ellison
Thomas C. Fiala
Donald R. Banowit
Peter A. Jackman
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Brian J. Del Buono
Edward W. Yee
Vincent L. Capuano
Virgil Lee Beaston
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Rae Lynn P. Guest
Daniel A. Klein

Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael D. Specht
Tracy L. Muller
Jon E. Wright
LuAnne M. DeSantis
Ann E. Summerfield
Helene C. Carlson
Cynthia M. Bouchez
Timothy A. Doyle
Gaby L. Longsworth
Lori A. Gordon
Laura A. Vogel
Bryan S. Wade
Bashir M.S. Ali
Shannon A. Carroll
Matthew E. Kelley
Michelle K. Holoubek
Marsha A. Rose

Young Tang
Christopher J. Walsh
W. Blake Coblentz+
James J. Pohl*
John T. Haran+
Mark W. Rygiel
Kevin W. McCabe

Registered Patent Agents•
Karen R. Markowicz
Matthew J. Dowd
Katrina Yujian Pei Quach
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman
Victoria S. Rutherford
Simon J. Elliott
Julie A. Heider
Mita Mukherjee

Scott M. Woodhouse
Liliana Di Nola-Baron
Peter A. Socarras
Jeffrey K. Mills
Danielle L. Letting
Lori Brandes
Steven C. Oppenheimer

Of Counsel
Edward J. Kessler
Kenneth C. Bass III
Marvin C. Guthrie

*Admitted only in Maryland
+Admitted only in Virginia
•Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

September 5, 2006

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8591
INTERNET ADDRESS:
JMILLS@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1634

Mail Stop: Amendment

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/517,466; Filed: March 2, 2000
For: **Compositions and Methods for Use In Recombinational Cloning of Nucleic Acids**
Inventors: HARTLEY *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4680003/BJD/JKM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and

2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

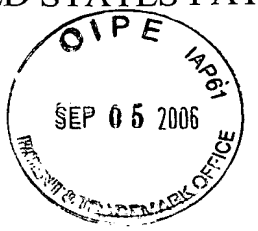
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Jeffrey K. Mills
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 56,413

BJD/JKM:bac
Enclosures

579203_1.DOC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of:
HARTLEY *et al.*
Appl. No. 09/517,466
Filed: March 2, 2000
For: **Compositions and Methods for Use in Recombinational Cloning of Nucleic Acids**

Confirmation No.: 4289
Art Unit: 1634
Examiner: Johannsen, D.
Atty. Docket: 0942.4680003/BJD/JKM

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated **November 18, 2005**, and the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment dated **August 2, 2006**, Applicants submit the following Amendments and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

(A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;

(B) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:

- in ascending order;
- with status identifiers; and
- with markings in the currently amended claims;

(C) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.